that account up to 30th June 1897. Owing to the dryness of the hills in the district, and to the difficulty in finding suitable places for nurseries in or near forests, such as the banks of streams and rivers having a constant water-supply, it is very doubtful, if anything in the shape of an equal return for the large amount of money spent on the raising of seedlings in nurseries and transplanting them in *coupes*, may be looked for. On the other hand, much may be said in favour of systematic sowings of seeds by dibbling in exploited areas. This method of sowing does not cost much and the seedlings need no further care. Sowing in coupes with a mixture of seeds, combined with a judicious selection of a sufficient number of healthy seed-bearing standards, appears to be the best means for obtaining both artificial and natural reproduction for the reboisement of felled areas. Of course, wire-fencing and efficient measures for fire-protection, would, to a large extent, favour the forest-growth.

123. *Ratnágiri.*—2 *khandis*, 4 *maunds* of seed were collected by guards and sown broad-cast in the forest, but the results were not successful.

124. 31,100 seedlings were raised in the nurseries and 10,760 plants were planted out in the Dápoli plantation.

(*3*).—*Early Thinnings.*

125. In the Northern Division of Kánara, 206 acres of the Barchi plantation and 697 acres of series XI, in the Gund Working-Circle, were thinned. It is reported that the exact area over which the thinning extended in the Supa Working-Circle, could not be ascertained as the operations were scattered all over the forests as formerly. In future, thinnings will extend over the same area as the main fellings.

126. In the Southern Division of Kánara, 5 square miles of the Mundgod forests were thinned.

127. In the Western Division of Kánara, 577 acres of the Kadrá, Mardi and Sulgeri teak plantations were thinned.

128. 4,500 acres were thinned in the Khánápur Range of Belgaum.

129. No such operations were carried out in the other divisions of the Circle.

(*4*).—*Other operations for the improvement of the Forest.*

130. In the Northern Division of Kánara, creepers were cut by the Forest Guards over the whole area of the organized forests, at no expense to Government. Creepers and inferior species were also cut out of the Barchi, Singatgeri and Bomanhalli plantations at a cost of Rs. 252.

131. In the Southern Division of Kánara, trees of inferior species which were impeding the growth of young teak were girdled to death at a cost of Rs. 130.

132. Inferior species on 1,290 acres in the Western Division, Kánara, and on 1,387 acres in the Belgaum Division, were also girdled to death.

133. In the Ratnágiri Division, creepers were cut by Forest Guards in the Khed and Málvan ranges, and trees of inferior species on 39 acres were girdled to death.

(*5*).—*Experiments.*

134. No experiments with exotic seeds were made during the year in any of the divisions of the Circle.

135. In the Southern Division, Kánara, experiments with seed of the *Santalum album* were made in the Yellápur and Mundgod Ranges, and 147 seedlings from 1′ to 4′ in height are reported to have survived.

136. All the *Swietenia macrophylla* seedlings planted out in Belgaum during 1894, are reported to be dead.

(*d*).—Exploitation of Major Forest Produce and (*e*).—Extraction and transport of Major Forest Produce by Land and Water.

137. There is nothing special to record under these heads.